

## Memorandum

**To:** Riley-Purgatory-Bluff Creek Watershed District Board of Managers  
**From:** Barr Engineering Co  
**Subject:** Silver Lake Water Quality Improvement Project: Landscape Restoration Contract  
**Date:** 7/6/2022 (Revised July 11, 2022)  
**Project:** 23/27-0053.14 024B  
**c:** Terry Jeffry, District Administrator, Scott Sobiech, Jen Koehler, Marcy Bean

### Recommended Board Action

It is recommended that the RPBCWD Board of Managers:

- 1) Authorize the Administrator to execute the contracts with Prairie Restoration Inc.

The Silver Lake water quality improvement project is located north of Pleasantview Road on the south end of Silver Lake in the city of Chanhassen, Minnesota. This project was identified in a December 2018 feasibility study for the area with the goal of the project to improve water quality in Silver Lake. The proposed project features include Pleasantview Road drainage improvements including the addition of curb and gutter, catch basin inlets, and storm sewer, ravine/channel stabilization and regrading, and the addition of five (5) iron-enhanced ditch check dams along the channel. A small portion of the work shown on the construction drawings include filling in an eroded section of ravine on private property.

The project was awarded to the lowest bidder, Molnau Trucking LLC (Molnau), in April 2021. Molnau received the notice to proceed in May 2021. Under the contract, Molnau was required to achieve substantial completion of the contracted work by September 30, 2021. Molnau in fact achieved substantial completion on November 19, 2021 – 50 days late. In February 2022, RPBCWD provided Molnau and West Bend Mutual Insurance Co., the surety for the contract, with notice of its intent to declare contractor default under paragraph 15.02A.1 of the general conditions of the contract and terminate the May 18, 2021, contract.

Upon the termination of construction contract with Molnau it became necessary to contract separately to support the work at the project site that would have been completed under warranty with Molnau as well as the remaining landscape restoration establishment activities on the site. In late May 2022, Barr conducted a site visit at the request of Administrator Jeffry to identify remaining work items at the site. Barr staff developed the following recommended scope of work needed at the project site based on the gap in services left by the termination of the contract with Molnau Contracting. The following scope of work was reviewed and approved by Administrator Jeffery on June 6 to solicit quotes from restoration contractors.

**Site work:**

- Fine grading/breaking up of large topsoil “lumps” at select locations in the site
- Improving infiltration/drainage from energy dissipation basin - Ripping of energy dissipation bottom (basin holding water, likely due to compaction) – rip to depth of at least 12-18 inches (more if possible)
- Clean up around check dams and addition of Class II field stone riprap on upstream/downstream side of check dams where geotextile exposed
- Removal of sediment at upstream side of check dams
- Removal and disposal of remaining silt fence and sediment logs once site is stabilized/established

**Landscape work:**

- Installation of Buffer Zone Signage
- Replacing basin plantings (once basin begins infiltrating after ripping)
  - Replace non-surviving shrubs in basin bottom with dwarf bush honeysuckle (per original design)
- Replace sedge plugs in channel bottom (no sign of survival/establishment)
- Reseed and place new erosion control blanket on regraded areas, channel, and basin bottom
- Management of garlic mustard just outside the original project work area
- Year 1 Establishment and Maintenance
- Year 2 Establishment and Maintenance
- Year 3 Establishment and Maintenance

Barr solicited quotes from four native landscape restoration contractors including: Prairie Restorations Inc, Minnesota Native Landscapes (MNL), Cardno, and Landbridge Ecological. Table 1 summarizes the quotes received from the three responding contractors.

**Table 1. Summary of Quotes Received for the Silver Lake Water Quality Improvement Project Maintenance Work**

<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Total Quote</b>
<b>Prairie Restorations, Inc. (PRI)</b>	\$ 41,015.90
<b>Minnesota Native Landscapes (MNL)</b>	\$ 41,962.00
<b>Landbridge Ecological</b>	\$ 49,242.52

After viewing the quotes, Prairie Restorations, Inc. provided the lowest quote. Because PRI was previously a subcontractor to Molnau for vegetation work, PRI has in-depth familiarity with the project and site conditions.